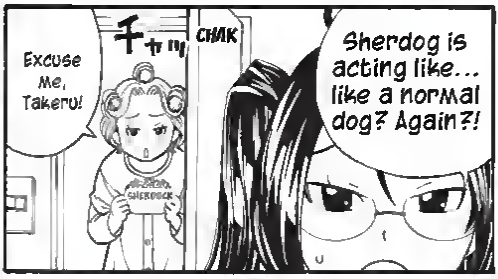


Case 7: ⚜ Hidden from the Press, Part 5

Just like before...
He's a full-on dog!
ARF!
CRUNCH CRUNCH CRUNCH
CHOMP CHOMP CHOMP

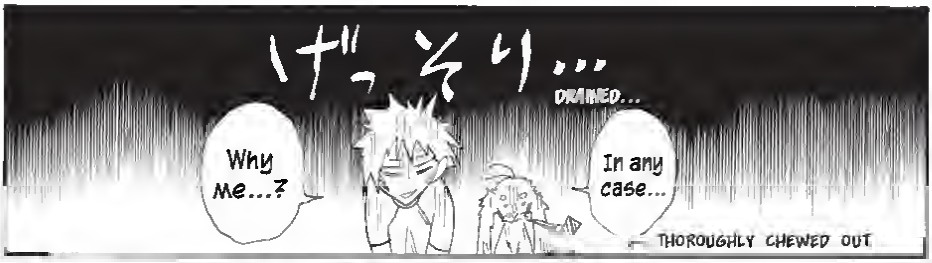
Guess I'll try...
What do I do?! How can I get him back to normal?!

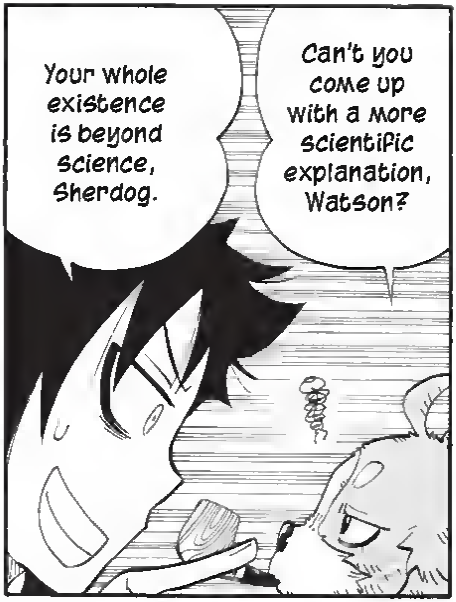
Hmm, when I see him like this, I realize how cute he really is.
IT...IT'S NOT
What's with the animal abuse?!
AND YOU WERE RAISED IN A HOUSEHOLD OF POLICE!
CHOMP CHOMP

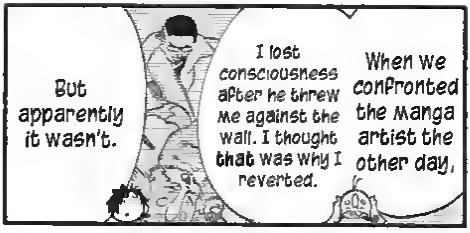
WHOOSH
Shock treatment!

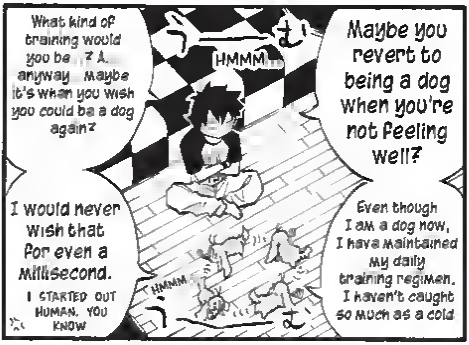
WHAM!
Will you stop that?!

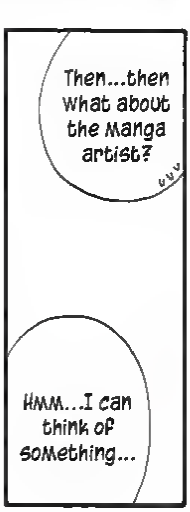
...Gasp!
He's so dog-like...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
Wizzz
Watson! What have I...?
ARF ARF!
ARF ARF!
Sherdog, you're back! What a relief!
Hmm, I remember that you were about to tell Irene about me...
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
Maybe peeing brings you back to normal? That's what happened last time.
Anyway, I'm glad you're...


げっそり...
DRAINED...
Why me...?
In any case...
THOROUGHLY CHEWED OUT


Your whole existence is beyond science, Sherdog.
Can't you come up with a more scientific explanation, Watson?


But apparently it wasn't.
I lost consciousness after he threw me against the wall. I thought that was why I reverted.
When we confronted the Manga artist the other day,


What kind of training would you be ? A. anyway Maybe it's when you wish you could be a dog again?
HMMM...
Maybe you revert to being a dog when you're not feeling well?
I would never wish that for even a millisecond.
I STARTED OUT HUMAN. YOU KNOW
Even though I am a dog now, I have maintained my daily training regimen. I haven't caught so much as a cold
HMMM


Then...then what about the Manga artist?
HMM...I can think of something...

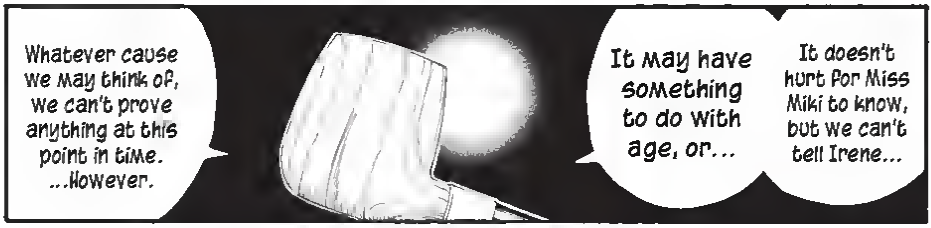
Was our attempt to tell Irene about my true identity?
Huh?
Perhaps the cause
Gasp...!

Right... Maybe he threw you at the wall
because he sensed something about you.

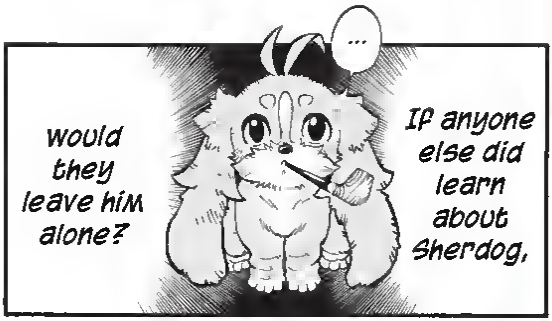
Whenever you and I whispered to each other.
The scoundrel would stare at us suspiciously
At the time, I could hardly believe he would have realized the truth...but Maybe...

Thus dispelling all his suspicions.
Exactly. But then I truly became a dog.

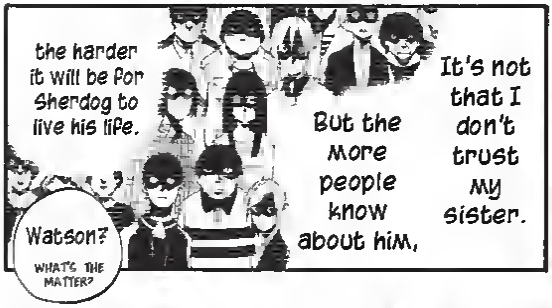
B...but what about Miki?
I told her all about you. She knows everything...
Yes, quite so...


Whatever cause we may think of, we can't prove anything at this point in time. ...However.
It may have something to do with age, or...
It doesn't hurt for Miss Miki to know, but we can't tell Irene...

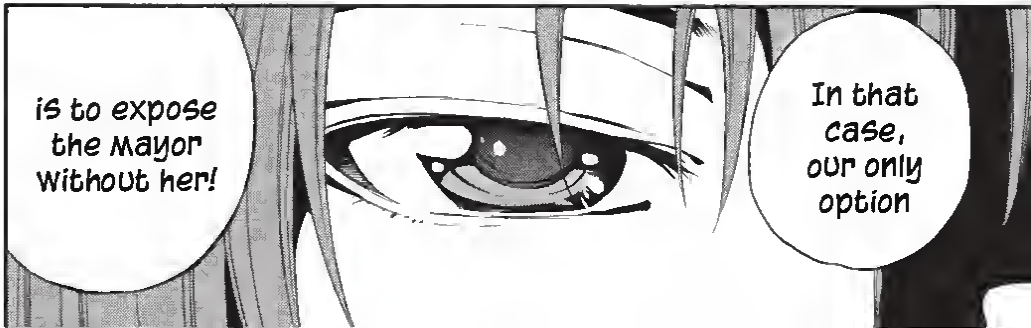
What...?
There is no way of knowing when I might disappear.
If the manga artist or Irene had discovered my identity,
I may have lost my self permanently.
The one thing I can say
is that my existence is more unstable than I had thought.


...
If anyone else did learn about Sherdog,
would they leave him alone?

Th—
That won't happen! Everything'll be Fine!
But...
PAT
PAT
PAT
PAT
PAT
PAT


It's not that I don't trust my sister.
But the more people know about him,
the harder it will be for Sherdog to live his life.
Watson?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

...So anyway! Looks like we'd better forget about asking my sister for help!
Indeed.
"Ugh"
OFF
INU


In that case, our only option
is to expose the Mayor without her!

...
I can't do that.
Can we do that? ...She's the mayor. ...She's the most powerful person in the city.
There's no telling what she'll do to us if we screw it up.
THE LAST BOSS
Quite so. Then would you rather leave things as they are?
What should we do, Sherdog?
SMIRK
Indeed.
There is only one thing we can do.

DING DONG
?
DING DONG
Ugh!
Can't I at least spend my day off in pea—

It's not even raining today, so why...?
B-DMP
B-DMP
B-DMP
Oh...! Ms. Mayor, it's Takeru Wajima.
There's something I really needed to talk to you about.
...Hello?
The only reason he'd be here is that he suspects...
Him again.!
IRK...
?!
That vinyl umbrella...
I feel like that kid would chase me down anywhere.
I'd be wasting my time if I pretended not to be here.
CH...
lock
...I'll let you in.
That's okay. What brings you here today?
Sorry for bringing my dog with me.
And in that case, I might as well...

...It's nothing special. Especially compared to the Mayors who came before me.
Sorry to bother you at home.
This is some apartment.
NOTHING LESS FOR THE MAYOR.

Takeru Wajima-kun.
I've done a bit of homework on you, too.
GRIN

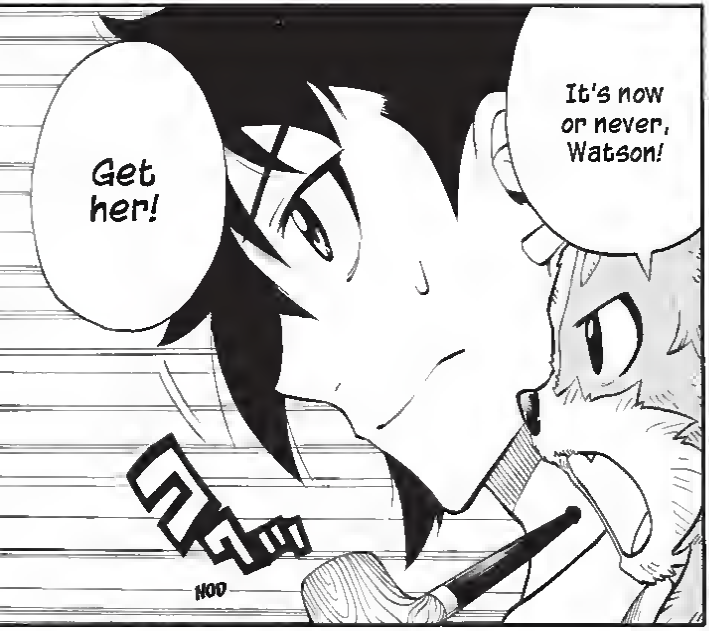
But you're so young, and you did all this work on your own, right? That's amazing.
Oh.
KACHAK

You've done your homework on me. ...You're a credit to your school paper.
Oh, no...
GLUP GLUP

I understand you're the younger brother of the Violent Crimes inspector who came to interrogate me.
!
Wajima isn't a very common name.
And when I mentioned London Academy's school paper, I couldn't help but notice her surprise... so of course I wondered.
She did seem to think of me as her prime suspect...
But I was cleared of suspicion— thanks to your interview.
Isn't that a funny coinci-dence?
Y-yes...
But maybe it was fate.
...
What do you mean?

I'll be honest with you.
Mayor Takasugi. I think you killed Ichirō Yakita.
...Do you...
...have any idea what you're saying?
SHUDDER

I belong to a police family. I couldn't just let it go!
...I do.
I came here to learn the truth.


Get her!
It's now or never, Watson!
HOO

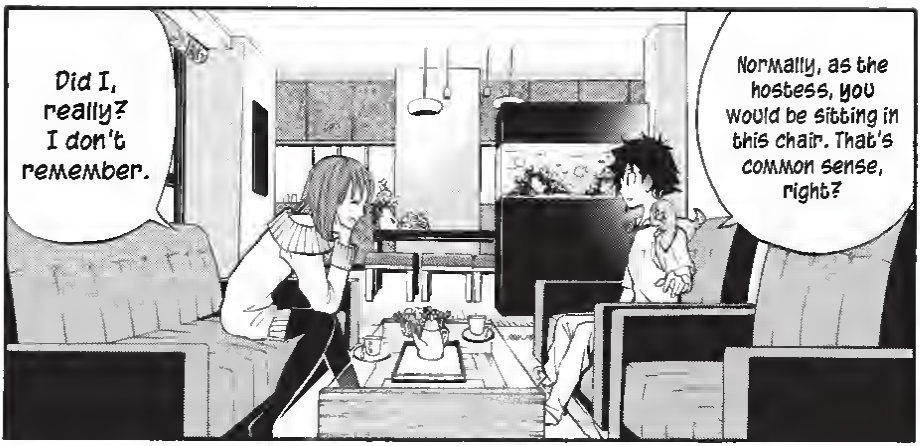
Why are you so obsessed with this delusion that I am a murderer?
Then you'll let me hear how you came to this conclusion?
SNAP

B-DMP...
At the time, Ms. Mayor...

When we visited you for our interview.
STILT
STILT
FLUSTER
FLUSTER
I first noticed you acting suspicious

...
...And what about it?
DMP...

You asked us to sit in armchairs.
Just like you did today.

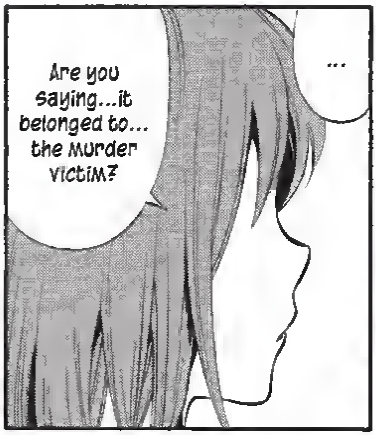

Did I, really? I don't remember.
Normally, as the hostess, you would be sitting in this chair. That's common sense, right?

I don't remember that either.
GRR

On the brand new sofa.
Then the next day, you had Miki and me sit on the couch, like normal.

I have it all recorded in the video I took.
TWITCH

I told you, it bothers me to see lipstick on a cup.
That's a lie.
IRK...
The coffee cup that was left in the sink.
...That's not all.
If it had really been your cup, there should have been...
And it still had a lipstick stain on it!
The next day, you had started to drink out of a cup that you left on the desk.
...
to wipe lipstick off of coffee cups.
You never were the type


...
Are you saying...it belonged to... the murder victim?

Yes.
I understand that you had known Yakita in the past.

...You heard that from your detective sister, didn't you?
KLATTA

The cup on the kitchen counter that day belonged to someone else.
Someone who had been there before we arrived.
And you went to unnatural pains to hide it.
Am I wrong, Mayor Takasugi?

That won't do at all... the police are supposed to keep confidentiality.
We can't have them blabbing to everyone about the private lives of innocent citizens.
I object to this treatment! The Chief of Police will be hearing about this!
!!
...If I'm not careful, I could get my sister fired.
If I can't prove she's the murderer...
G-GULP...!
Not to worry, Watson.
G-GULP...
I am now 100% certain she did it.
Mayor Takasugi is the killer.
G-GULP...!

Like I did when I let Yakita get a hold on me.
...is...
I don't want to make another mistake.
...What to do, what to do?
Killing one person or two people made no difference.
AND NEITHER WILL KILLING... A THIRD TIME.